PARKIN, Dr. G. R. - Rhodes Trust - London - January, March 1919 (615)

January 23rd, 1919

Dr. G. R. Parkin, C.M.G.,

Rhodes Trust, Seymour House, Waterloo Place, London, S.W.

Dear Dr. Parkin:

In January 1915 Mr. Kent Griffin was awarded the Rhodes Scholarship from the University of Toronto, his being the last award that was made. He went into the army and has served for three years, and has been of late with the Imperial Forces in Northern Russia and now lies wounded at Archangel. His father feels that having served for three years he might now be discharged in order that he may take up his work at Oxford. Could it not be possible for you through the Rhodes Trust to make application for a man who is [illegible]scholar, because the longer he is detained the more difficult will it be for him to resume his work.

We are having a very mild January, in many ways a phenomenal winter. Soldiers are coming back very rapidly. We must now have two hundred and we are making special classes for them even at the preparatory stage. We shall probably do a good deal in the summer so as to get them ready for next October.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

March 17th, 1919

Mr. G. R. Parkin, C.M.G.,

Cayzder House, Waterloo Place, London, England.

My dear Mr. Parkin:

Last week your letter arrived together with enclosures which have been sent to the various papers.

I have to thank you for the announcement you have made with regard to the appointments which are at our disposal. I concur in your judgment that it would be well for us not to make these appointments until some months after this in order that we may have a chance to choose a returned man if there should be one available. I hope that the new arrangements will work out satisfactorily.

We have now a great many students whom we are endeavouring to fit at best we can into the courses and move as much time as possible. We are arranging Summer Sessions in most of the faculties, and we are even doing preparatory work with classes of matriculation grade. We shall begin new classes nearly every three months.

As you say the case of Sir William Peterson is very sad. In a letter that I had from Nicholson last week he tells me that there is some improvement and that he is able to speak and that his mind is clear, so that while at least his administrative work is over he may be able to do some literary work but it is really a sad ending.

How very generous the British Government has been in dealing with its soldier students. I wish that our Government would change its mind and do something similar. We are endeavouring to bring pressure to bear upon them for this purpose.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.